W. D. Buel.

Bark Wave

Capt Leonard W. Hill

Goodspeed
1960

68 pages

1856-1

Port x
11 vols

Fascinating narrative with sketches & whaling songs at end of book

XIX

Thursday evening 3rd July 1856.

At boarding house of Wm Hocum in New Bedford Massachusetts.

Waiting to be shipped on board a whaler: occupy the time in reading, smoking sleeping & eating!

Look forward with strange mixture of feelings - Hope of getting a ship: fear of not being accepted: distrust of my own courage to face danger: determination to rush blindly if unable coolly and reflectively into every thing that nature shrinks from: feeble efforts to imagine my own condition at the end of a three years cruise: shall I emerge from that course of training improved in body & mind or the contrary? Will the indolence I now suffer from be weakened or strengthened.

New Bedford is a thriving but not a pleasant city -

Reading consists of Macaulay's History of England, Scotts Rob Roy, Foster's Essays, Ten Thousand a Year: which last have just finished - A powerfully constructed story: but the author shows too plainly that he is an intense aristocrat - Is it not a foolish & unwarrantable conclusion that the offspring of nobility & rank is certainly & necessarily noble in mind & body, while the children of low life or of illegitimate connections

bear a uniform stamp of inferiority?

Such is the inevitable conclusion of this book and I regard the author as a man of most powerful art & genius but partial & unphilosophical in his views & opinions.

Does he mean us to suppose that the English aristocracy shows no specimens of humanity as contemptible as Titmouse? Or that the English tradesman is to be fitly represented by Tagrag?

The plot of the book is most powerful, new and striking, but the tendency to describe high life and its characters as on the whole purely admirable and faultless while the opposite condition of men are only a remove above the brute creation, is to my mind a fault.

When the author describes Titmouse and Tagrag, Quirk, Huckaback, &c &c. – he conveys to the mind the predomination of kindly sarcasm with which I consider that a highly educated man must regard all mankind, himself included, but whenever we approach Aubrey & his family or the De la Zouches we are at once if not among saints and angels at least among beings whose faults & imperfections are totally lost sight of in the constant stream of their virtues.

This fact makes me turn with disgust from the descriptions of Aubrey & Co and regard only

with pleasure the portraits of the lower orders.
My own education is alas terribly imperfect.

Six years of my life have passed for nothing — Would I could blot their occurrences from my memory!

What, oh what records are to be made on the book of my fate before six more years shall roll by! this much I am determined; they shall be decisive!

4th July 1856

Rain: cleared at night: N.B. quiet: Theatre in evening: "Satan in Paris": I was tired to death: did not get out until near one o'c.

5th July 1856

Fine weather: made up my mind not to go to Theatrical performances in out of the way places like this unless expecting to be disgusted & fairly put to sleep as I was last night.

Also came to the conclusion that theatres are rather a childish amusement at best but if not of the best quality —— they are slightly unendurable.

Have since seen the Drama of "The Wife" at this Theatre: by the help of two prominent actors from Boston it passed off well and two Yankee farces afterwards were amusing.

Bark Wave at Sea
Friday 22nd aug 1856

Sailed from New Bedford one week ago this morning at day light. Had a favorable breeze until about the 19th — 20th when we lay to under fore top sail stay sail close reefed main top sail and Spencer in a gale and very heavy sea. The little bark rode it out gallantly and was commended by all hands — she shipped one sea which lifted the Larboard boat forward and carried it off the ~~tryworks~~.

I felt some anxiety during the nights of the 20th & 21st and was right glad to see clear sky once more

Off Isl of Flores
4 to September 1856

Lying off and on waiting for the Captain and a boats crew who are ashore. This morning came in sight of Flores, first land since leaving New Bedford; appears to be destitute of trees, very high out of water and level at top forming table land which is surprising from the smoothness and intricacy with which the farm lines are marked out. About 40 neat white houses are to be seen from the water — I could see no human being.

Spoke a large whaler to day after capt Still went ashore the Ship Timor of Sayharbor Long Island — the respective having taken two whales.

They were no doubt part of a school which we saw & gave chase to on the 1st inst without success.

Journal of voyage of the Rark Wave of New Bedford on a 30 months whaling cruise to the South Pacific. (continued).

Sunday 28th Septr 1856

We of the forecastle suppose ourselves to be this day within about 11 degrees or say 690 miles of the Line: as there are only two or three before the mast who have ever crossed the Line before, the event is anticipated with considerable curiosity and interest: Father Neptune is expected to make his appearance over the bows and terrible doings are to follow thereupon.

To day we are nearly becalmed though for about a week we have been bowling along before the Northeast trade wind heading most of the time S.S.W.: ~~we have now fairly lost the trades and shall very likely be becalmed for several days: it will not cause~~

Thursday 3rd Oct 1856

On the 1st instant we were informed by our first mate that hereafter we should have "watch" and "watch": ~~that is to say~~ and here it may be well to give a brief explanation of the term "watch" as used at sea; it means either the number of men as there are divided into two companies called the "Starboard watch" and the "larboard watch" or it has reference to the period of time that each of these two bodies of men are on duty at once as for instance there are seven watches in the 24 hours viz; 7 to 12 M, 5 hrs, 12 M to 4 P M 4 hrs 4 ~~to ½ past~~ 5½ P M 1 hr ½, 5½ to 7 P M 1 hr ½ (these two are the dog watches) 7 ~~P M~~ to 11 P M 4 hrs, 11 P M to 3 am 4 hrs; 3 to 7 am 4 hrs — The duty is divided thus say ~~I Bowl am in~~ the Starboard watch commence duty at 7 am, if I am the first man in the watch I take my "trick" at the wheel from 7 to 10 3 hrs, though the usual length of a trick is 2 hrs: at 10 ocl I am relieved by another of the Starboard watch. at 12 M the Starboard watch goes below to dinner and the larboard watch come on deck.

From 12 to 4 the larboard watch are allowed to ~~sleep~~ dine or amuse themselves, at 4 P M

all hands sweep off decks ~~and clean the ship~~ ~~and from then~~ clean up while ~~the~~ one of the starboard watch goes to the wheel and is relieved at 5½ by one of the larboard watch who keeps it until 7 oc when the larboard watch go below and turn in and the starboard watch take the deck until 11 when the larboard watch come on deck and are on duty until 3 PM when they are relieved by the starboard watch who are on duty until 7 am —

The succeeding 24 hours the larboard watch have ~~the~~ 8 hours duty at night and the starboard but 4 hours and 20 on —

The mast heads are taken "on or stood" as the phrase is in the same manner as the tricks at the wheel —

After dark ~~a man~~ one of the watch on duty is always stationed in the bows on the lookout for vessels and when off a lee shore he is sent to the mast head.

~~At the termination~~ At breakfast time in the morning the watch who have had 8 hours duty the night before always have the morning to rest for rest and sleep.

This much of favor we have been enjoying for a week or two but the arrangement of watch

watch or that, all hands should regularly have one four hours in the daytime for rest and refreshment was as may be ~~imagined~~ received with much rejoicing.

In truth we needed it.

The change from the life of total idleness and leisure which we had probably all been leading for ~~some~~ months to ~~a period of~~ twenty hours ~~watching~~ hard labor and watching was as severe a test of physical endurance I think as is often gone through by any one.

For myself I say truly that the pain in my head and eyes were so intense that I feared ~~seriously~~ that my sight would be severely injured from pure want of sleep and rest.

~~The other~~ My companions in the starboard watch grouped a good deal though none as much as I; this was ~~because~~ either from their sleep being less sound or their luck better than mine as they managed to enjoy a good many naps in the night watches unmolested while if I but slept for an instant I was sure to be detected and ordered with great alertness not to be caught again.

However there is a saying ~~that~~ which, though common I often comfort myself with that all things must have an end and

so had the mouth of all day on deck.
"Le bon temps vient à pas, doucement, très doucement c'est vrai mais certainement"

This digression was rendered necessary ~~if~~ in order that the writer of this nondescript log or journal might show cause as the lawyers say for delaying his entries herein for so many days. If the reader will pardon the digression he will strive to do better in future

~~On Monday the 4~~ Our first "raise" was made on a fine Sabbath afternoon about a week after sailing when "blackfish" were "sung out" from the mast head. I think I am not ~~totally~~ incorrect in calling this fish a miniature edition of the sperm whale. The latter has been often described. The usual length of the blackfish is 15 to 20 feet and they average yield about 2 barrels. The oil is about the value of N.Y.R. They are not unlike the whale in their manner of swimming when pursued and are I think rather more shy about being approached by a boat.

In a calm sea such as we had on this Sunday it is very

difficult to take them, and our boats after some hours of hard rowing were entirely unsuccessful.

Thursday 9th October 1856

In consequence of the causes above mentioned it will be necessary to give but a very brief account of the ~~events~~ principal events that have taken place up to this date.

We are 54 days out from New Bedford. ~~to day~~.

About a week ago black fish were seen and a small one was killed, brought on board and converted into oil.

He was a "calf" about 15 feet long and of the girt of a half pipe wine measure. The yield of oil was but about half a barrel. Half a loaf &c.

On the 1st of September as I think I have mentioned Sperm whales were seen close to the ship and pursued without success.

There was a high sea running at the time and though all on board were greatly mortified at our want of luck yet perhaps had a whale been taken it would have been nearly impossible to have cut him in.

Had the whales been seen half an hour earlier it is possible one might

have been killed.

On the day of our steward was standing on the martingale trying to strike a porpoise when a rope broke and he went overboard passed entirely under the vessel for her whole length and was seen in an instant far to leeward his head bobbing like a cork on the waters.

Man overboard! Lower away! was the cry and like lightning our larboard boat was shooting over the waves to his rescue. The second mate steered straight as a dart to the spot and the poor steward was soon once more brought safe on board. He was a large strong man in full health; if he had not been it is likely that he would have lost the "contents of his mess"

We lay off and on the Island of Gloves for 5 or 6 days waiting the arrival of some vegetables which came off at last in two large boats pulled by each by a dozen Salvages.

A few apples and some cheese was brought aboard and retailed at to our forecastle hands at enormous prices.

As the weather was boisterous during our stay off Gloves we were

forced to be tacking & wearing ing — cessantly in order to preserve a proper distance from the shore and after the ~~green~~ ~~hills~~ ~~of the~~ dingy green hills had lost their attraction all hands became heartily disgusted.

The wretched island was devoted to wrath before the time by all ~~who spoke English~~ except the Portuguese as they are called who perhaps enjoyed being near it.

The captain cursed the miserable island on the quarter deck the mates did the same ~~amidst~~ around the main hatch and hardly anything was heard in the forecastle but "D— ~~the~~ Flores!".

At last we received all the potatoes and onions in rather a wet state and on the 18th bade adieu to the Island of Flores with a glorious breeze.

At noon next day we made the Peak of Pico and about 4 o'clk PM we were in the harbor of the town of Fayal. This place is much superior in appearance to Flores. The city or town looks from the water we did not go ashore to be of considerable size the houses and churches are very white & neat and the country around is adorned with vineyards and groves of orange trees and other tropical fruits.

We only remained in the harbor

an hour which was time enough to allow the Captn to pull ~~ashore~~ off with our letters which he delivered to one of the Custom House boats thus saving a charge of $12 ~~which~~ for ~~bans~~ harborage fee. We were soon again on our course with a fair breeze.

Friday 10th October 1856

Nothing else of great importance up to this date. We have spoken several outward bound whalers and a number of merchant men but none homeward bound and no ships ~~who brought~~ with news from the States.

This is our 55th day out: we go bowling along ~~with~~ on the larboard tack heading West by North and steering full and by the wind or full & by. We are probably very near the Line — ~~It has been~~ should have crossed it before but for light and baffling winds.

How often have my eye glanced over the Equator on the Map!

One year ago if my present situation had been described by anyone as what was to be my lot in a single twelve month, I should have smiled with perfect incredulity.

At that time I had just begun to recover from the sense of loneliness I felt when I climbed down the side of the ~~Illinois~~ Steamship Illinois springing into the Pilots boat and watched the great hulk

of the steamer as it bore from me all those most dear to my heart.
Then my attention was turned to the saw - ~~Grace~~ Below all that.

Sunday 12th Oct 1856

Fair breeze: running about 6 or 7 Knots. ~~Heating about~~

Since leaving New Bedford we have had almost ~~unbroken~~ continual warm weather and today it is exceedingly pleasant though with a breeze which is somewhat destructive to straw hats in case they do not fit tight on the head.

About 4 or 5 weeks ago the whale ship Wm & Eliza hove in sight. They sailed from N. B. about a month before ourselves. When she came up with us she reported having taken two whales. ~~It was~~ It was on Sunday afternoon that she first spoke us a boat's crew came aboard ~~of~~ and had a gam. There were two or three among them who I had boarded with in New Bedford. It was exceedingly pleasant to see a face which I had known even for a week. Some one said that the Wm & E were to keep company for the cruise but how the time the report was

I do not know. At all event, a gale sprang up about a week after we spoke which parted the two vessels and we have not seen her since.

Tuesday 14 Oct 1856

Fine weather, Heading S.W. with good fine knot breeze I believe the NE Trades. Tomorrow at daylight we are just 60 days out from New Bedford. There is nothing of great consequence to be noted it may be well to give a brief account of our vessel.

The Wave is a bark of about 200 tons burden or large enough to carry 1000 bbls of oil. She carries the usual sail of a bark viz: jib, Flying Jib & Fore top ~~mast~~-staysail, Foot sail, Fore top sail & Fore ~~top~~ gallant sail, main sail, maintopsail & main ~~top~~ gallant sail, ~~and~~ spencer ~~and~~ spanker and Gaff top-sail. She has a main royal yard but no royals bent.

A week or two ago a maintop-gallant staysail and Mizzen top mast stay sail were rigged in order to enable us to get to the Horn a little sooner than otherwise. We have had all sail night and day for many weeks.

The little bark (she is not larger than many schooners) is not

a crack sailer but still a very fair one. It is unjust to compare her speed with the vessels that we meet now on our outward passage as they are merchantmen and in the trades carry every stitch of canvas that they can crack on.

Saturday 18th Oct 1856

Steading about S.S.W. — making good time before the Trades as at the last date.

I was speaking of our ship's company is made up as follows; Captn; 1st 2nd + 3rd Mates; 2 Boatsteerers or Harpooners; one in the Starboard + one in the Larboard Watch; There is besides the Steward who is a ~~good~~ sailor + can strike a Whale therefore counts for a third Boatsteerer: the cooper ~~quite and important~~ and Cabin Boy.

All these live "aft"; the Capt + 3 officers in the Staterooms + Cabin and the others in the Steerage: they all mess at one table at sea as on board whalers.

There are thirteen foremast hands who ~~do~~ shipped entirely to work the vessel ~~that~~ and not for any particular trade or business: also there are two Carpenters and the Cook ~~who~~ making in all 16 hands, who sleep

or "bunk" in the fo'castle.

"We crossed the Line the first of the week and I was in great expectations of having a sight of Old Neptune but for some reason or other the old gentlemen kept himself out of the way altogether or at all events he did so when I was on deck so was disappointed.

It was unanimously agreed that I should be surrendered to the watery god that he might take me on a visit to Davy Jone's Locker and show me all the curiosities.

As he did not come I was not earned after all and so I shall have to say I have crossed the Line without seeing Old Nep.

The other evening about 7 o'clock the light in the fo'castle was suddenly doused while most of the crew were below. Knowing by experience what was to follow I immediately crept into my bunk ~~[illegible]~~ ~~to see what would happen~~

In an instant my sea chest was raised up bodily from the ~~deck~~ floor and piled atop of me where it remained poised for a moment and then descended again with a bang which made me rather anxious for the welfare of sundry bottles of vinegar ink and ~~[illegible]~~ salts which were

contained in the said chest.

My cries for mercy were answered with a volley of onions which being aimed too high did not put an end to my life but spent themselves against the side of the ship over my head.

The conflict now became general. Tin pots and pans did fly, onions whistled, and at last some warrior more daring than the rest seized a brickbat from a spot where there were some stowed and the next moment it came in concussion with my ribs, although rather gently being probably a spent brick.

This was ~~so~~ coming it rather too strong and some one was at last so ~~kind as to strike a light~~ merciful as to strike a light in answer to the cries of the wounded.

The light revealed a scene not to be described. The combatants were panting from their exertions. While two or three of the most timid were huddled in a corner ~~a~~ one cried out that his arm was broken by a brick, another that he had been hit in the eye with a boot, while a third declared that he wouldn't stand it.

As for me my chest was reversed ~~and~~ the padlock which held it split

in two pieces ~~and~~ while my berth was a small onion bed with here and there a brick or a tin pan.

To add to ~~t~~ the horrors of the scene it was announced that the officers were about coming ~~to the~~ to the fo'castle which had the effect of causing everyone to ~~be in~~ spring ~~in~~ to their bunks in order to appear as innocent as possible.

The report was happily false. Of course nobody did it as is always the case in such matters but the next day two of our watch were ~~det~~ kept on deck with orders not to take a watch below in the daytime without express permission. It is supposed that there was a traitor in the camp and dire threats of vengeance ~~were~~ are made.

Sunday 19 Oct 1856 10 oc am

Lovely weather — blowing briskly before the glorious old trade winds which have been blowing ~~I~~ in these latitudes I suppose since the creation.

Though I confess to a partiality for warm weather yet we have had none so far that I should call hot; that is to say on board ship, of course on the pavements of New York or Boston it would be another

matter,
though, no one who has known me since I have been aboard the Wave will deny that I have had some rubs to encounter yet after all, my experience of
" a Life on the ocean Wave,
And a home on the bounding deep!"
has been so far a very pleasant one, in fact I would almost say the happiest of my whole life.

Old Ocean has been kind to me from the first — Not one moment of sea-sickness that terror to most landsmen has he caused me to suffer, and in exchange for the legions of blue devils which fill my brain on shore he has given me the best of spirits a tremendous and according to every one who sees me eat a terrific appetite and altogether blessed me with the most perfect health of my heart could wish.

The only drawback to my being perfectly happy is the news I heard shortly before leaving New Bedford of my mothers poor health and spirits; I trust in God however that she has been rendered no worse by the news of my leaving home that, we shall both live to meet again in health & happiness —

Sunday 2 Oc P.M.

The weather continues fine ~~and~~
We are spanking along, on our course with all sail set and have been doing so for more than a fortnight past.

Tomorrow the Steamship sails from NY to Sant. ~~at~~ and I hope that she will carry ~~new~~ my letter written at Fayal. ~~giving~~

~~It is a little amusing to hear the chatter~~ ~~that was out~~

There is one thing for the want of which I suffer, ~~books~~ a book to read. Owing to ~~my shipping in a~~ my being obliged to ship myself ~~get my chest and outfit~~ sign the articles have a protection taken out for me, select my chest and entire outfit, write four letters, eat my dinner and get aboard all in the space of 2 hours and a half it may be supposed that I had not much time to buy books even if I had had the money. and twenty cents I am sorry to say was all I had left out of several dollars with which I landed in New Bedford three days before.

In fact for some time even after the last faint outlines of my native land had faded from my view I could hardly persuade myself that ~~it was~~ what was about me was real and not a kind of dream.

As I was saying I suffer somewhat for the want of books. I had ~~left~~ ~~my~~

fected to have had at least a days notice before sailing and had determined if possible to get about $5 cash from the owners with which to purchase some books not for amusement but something solid which I could dig into either mathematics or languages —

One book I had intended to get at all events and had in fact made the bookseller put it away that I might be sure to get it. This was a second hand copy of ~~this~~ Wolferts Roost by Washington Irving ~~the American Author~~ which I was to have for 75 cents. I had not read the book and had a great desire to do so as I believe there never was a line penned by that great man that is not at once delightful and instructive — His Life of George Washington which was being published when I left Newyork I consider on the whole (~~therefore~~ if I dare express an opinion) to be ~~an~~ the most noble work ever yet attempted in America — I mean no offence to Mr Bancroft or Mr Prescott ~~but~~ and am ~~fe~~ I confess partial to Mr Irving's style but I still hold to my opinion.

The bronze monument in Union Square is a magnificent work of art and an honor to our nation as the most prejudiced foreigner must confess but I believe that the life by Irving will live and be spread

over the wide world when the monument has long been forgotten or removed to make way for the ever onward progress of the Metropolis of the West.

Glorious Island City! When wearily plodding thy pavements I may have mentioned thy name with contempt and dissatisfaction, but here under the Line ~~with~~ where thousand, upon thousands of miles of ocean are rolling between us I think with pride that I am one of thy sons.

As John Bull would say, with a difference "Gotham, with all thy faults I love thee still!"

With all thy din, with all the crash of thy omnibuses, with thy dust in summer and thy "Slosh" in winter, thou art still the City of my heart!

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead
That never to himself hath said,
'This is my own, my native land'
If such there be, go, mark him well!"

I forget the rest but at all events I am getting sentimental, which I have not been before, thank my stars! since we sailed and so as we sailors say (a'hem!) I shall take a round turn and belay all that!

Still ~~I will ever~~ love thee as I do.

Gotham I love this broad ocean well enough to ~~do~~ live without seeing Gotham for a few months, 30 or 40, be the same more or less.

Here I am scribbling nonsense ~~in~~ when I should be engaged in the more useful ~~an~~ occupation of washing out some very dirty clothes of which I am the happy owner. So with the permission of the reader if I am so fortunate as to have one I will once more haul taut & belay.

Monday 20th 1856

Fine weather — Bowling along with a fair breeze —

As nothing important has happened to day I will set down an incident which ~~happened~~ occurred about 2 week ago and was on the whole too good to be lost.

A large English vessel hove in sight and came near enough to speak us. After the usual salutations had been passed, "Where did you leave the Trade?" sung out our Captain from his quarter deck. The other ~~Captain~~ Captain probably misunderstood the question for to the great astonishment of all hands on board answered came back in a stentorian voice "Three fifty ten, two fifty in advance!"

Probably the Englishman

thought that our Captain wished to know the rate of Seaman's wages aboard his ship. The answer served as a standing joke for some time afterwards — Our ~~Captain~~ Company only wished to ~~know~~ ~~in~~ ~~what~~ latitudes in which the trade winds left him.

Tuesday 21 Oct 1856

Fine weather, winds light, heading most of the time about SW by W. Sin backwhale seen from masthead. ~~Large ship seen.~~

Yesterday, ~~to the all hands~~ Kegs ~~or butts~~ of molasses were given to every two men in the forecastle.

The allowance is one gallon per month to each man. The ~~butts~~ kegs hold 2 gallons ~~each, and~~

I should think this a liberal supply but will be better able to tell when our month shall begin to draw toward its close. It will be worth noticing whose ~~will be out first~~ allowance is the first to give out.

My chum ~~or~~ in the mates or George will believe a good fellow and I think we shall ~~get~~ not quarrel. If we do it shall not be my fault, as it is my mission to spend a considerable amount

of injustice in such matters rather than we have it said that I quarrel about food.

When I quarrel as I do not wish to do with any man it shall certainly not be about "grub".

The 2nd of November is fast approaching and the great contest for the ~~front~~ possession of the White house will soon have been fought and the details of the battle be known North, South, East and West.

But some one says perhaps "Tell us about Whaling, we can hear all this ashore" Well friend the fact is you know as little of whaling as yourself. I have seen the tools but so far I know little or nothing of their use.

However all that will come I hope in good time.

Saturday 25th Oct 1856

Fine weather 71 days out from NB tonight — Light winds the last two or three days — On Thursday the 23rd all hands on deck engaged in getting out a quantity of lumber from the hold. To do this it was necessary to hoist it on deck and stow again ~~a large quantity~~ ~~a good deal~~ of our good many casks of bread and "Recruits" and other ~~deal~~ heavy ~~the~~ articles ~~&c~~. Perhaps you will be as curious as I was to know what recruits these are which are so portable as to stowed away in tight casks. Well reader they are not military or naval recruits in the common sense of the term but are pieces of cloth, calico &c useful in trading with "Kanackers" or Kanakas, Feejee Islanders & other natives.

Sunday 26 Oct 1856

Stiff breeze rough sea. Running under double reefed topsails & foresail & staysail. — Steering

For the last two days we have been exchanging visits or spamming as the phrase is with the officers & crew of the whaling brig Hecla which vessel we saw lying on Monday morning and came close to in the

afternoon. This ship is 5 months out from NB – She ~~belongs~~ and the Wave belong to the same owners.

The Hecla is about the same size as this craft but has two decks draws more water and is calculated to carry about 200 barrels more oil. Their luck has been pretty fair. 15 days out from NB they killed a sperm whale – and at the present time have killed 8 whales which being small ones made but about 150 bbls of oil – The crew are in high spirits with their luck & anticipate ~~a~~ getting full in good time.

We gammed with them twice on Friday & Saturday the 24th & 25th inst. ~~Gammed~~

Gamming is what ~~we~~ would be called on shore visiting – The same number of men which come on board one vessel to visit a gam are immediately returned by the same boat in order that in case of a gale separating the ships ~~to~~ neither shall be short of ~~men~~ hands. These gams are occasions of great fun & frolic and shall be described more at large hereafter

Tuesday 25 Oct 1856 4 P.M.

About midnight on Sunday the 26th a ~~tremen~~ violent Gale set in from N.E. accompanied by rain and the storm has continued up to the present hour, though since this morning the ~~front~~ force of the wind ~~wind~~ has slightly abated — under ~~on~~ bare poles reefed maintopsail + foresail the bark stands ~~well up~~ ~~before~~ it ~~however~~ but a set of watch put to all work and the night watches are pretty severe on the greenhands. When I turned out at 11 P.M. yesterday it was my turn to relieve the wheel and soon as I reached the deck I started aft for my post. The night was ~~a~~ as dark or darker than I ever before experienced, ~~and~~ rain fell in torrents and as you ~~strained your eyes~~ looked over the side all that you could perceive was the ~~crest~~ white crest surmounting the pitchy blackness of the ~~so~~ mighty ~~deep~~ waves as they now appeared a hillside with the ship at their foot and next roller far below in ~~rollers and~~ deep in lipping valleys. —

~~For 2 hours from~~

We had but 4 hours out + a long time it was, wet + chilled to the bone; how glad we hailed the sound of six bells as they proclaimed that ~~it~~ was ~~no~~ the turn of the Larboard to take the deck, and that ~~the~~ we poor drowned wretches might go below ~~strip off our wet clothing~~ clothing and in one damp bunk take to hard floor comfort we might for the space

of 14 hours. Though ~~we~~ the sail on our bark is still only confined to topsail & foresail yet we saw a merchant ~~brig~~ bark this morning ~~going on~~ carrying royals! This is the difference between merchantmen & whalers.

Our friends of the Hecla were separated from us by this spell of weather and it is doubtful when we shall see them again.

Friday 7th Nov. 1856.

In a week from tomorrow we shall have been out 3 months from N.R. We have not lowered for fish since my last date. I suppose we are within 5 or 6 degrees of the latitude of the Rio De La Plata. ~~Off~~ The ~~water~~ ~~& neighborhood~~ vicinity of the mouth of this river is considered the best sperm whaling ground in the Atlantic Ocean and our bark will probably cruise hereabouts for a month then we shall be off for the Storm.

To day the weather is very fine but in the beginning of the week we had a gale from the S.W. with rain. The seas were very high, higher I think than the ones we encountered in the Gulf Stream.

It seems strange to speak of cold weather

coming from the South to me who has never before been out of the "Gemp't Zone," but at any rate our southerly gale brought us a smell of Cape Horn ~~who~~ ~~co~~ and a good fresh sniff it was.

Shoes and stockings had been for many weeks out of fashion but last Sunday night ~~towards~~ ~~the~~ ~~starboard~~ ~~watch~~ ~~were~~ ~~were~~ ~~on deck~~ brought them both into use again. With a thick ~~new~~ jacket buttoned to the chin a stout Sou'wester ~~knotted~~ ~~round my neck~~ ~~and~~ a pair of shoes & stockings I ~~got on~~ did pretty well and ~~the~~ rest of my companions complained less than I. The sound of the relief bell was a sweet ~~sound~~ one. I assure you so sweet as none can know but those who make the venture of ~~whaling~~ a ~~seaman's~~ common life before the mast.

I have had the pleasure of seeing several Albatrosses, and other birds that were new to me.

The — ce — she — blows! is the cry we are now awaiting: the least sound from the masthead ~~be~~ will make all hands spring to their feet from Capt'n to Cabin boy —

It must come soon or we shall be a little discouraged.

Tuesday Nov 11th 1856

Sunday 9th we Capt raised large sp wh
3 boats chased without success.
This afternoon a very fine porpoise
~~struck~~ killed & broke a board.
The Capt ~~think~~ says we are now
~~nearly~~ on the ground, and bets are made
that we take a whale before Sunday.
The oil which oozes from the whale
is seen ~~on~~ floating on the surface, a
large dolphin was caught on ~~Sunday~~ Saturday with
squid or whale feed in his stomach, whale
sharks have been noticed from aloft, one
a piece of fat and lean or dead whale
has been seen floating: all good signs.
The whale raised on Sunday was
thought to be a 100 barrelled; he was so shy
that with the best efforts of the boats they
could not approach him.

Friday 14th Nov 1856

On the 12th inst we spoke two whalers
the Bark Sunbeam Capt Trumbull of NB
and the Brig Annawan Capt Mattapoisett —
~~They~~ Both ~~gammed with us~~ Capt came aboard of us and yesterday
afternoon the 13th one Capt lowered his boat
and returned the visit —

Monday 24 Nov 1856

Yesterday and last night gale and heavy sea which has somewhat moderated at ~~this~~ 12 M. though she still rolls a good deal; one of our ~~bow~~ foremast backstays parted on Sunday morning was spliced and set up.

A week ago last Saturday the night watch happened ~~[illegible]~~ to sight and we gammed. The capt near us all the week and on last Saturday the two barks again exchanged visits. It was my first watch below and ~~I~~ was some good fun we had 3 of the 8to crew who came aft were really fine appearing fellows & entertaining ~~[illegible] account of [illegible] which they had made from vessel while lying in harbor of Valparaiso. The men behaved ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible] that themselves in a [illegible] they therefore [illegible] away [illegible] of the foremast [illegible] the [illegible] it is [illegible]~~

~~Only one boy left in the boat who is home, but it got adrift and was picked up by a [illegible] to the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] instance of [illegible] inducing them to [illegible] knotting them above a ship [illegible]~~

and with ~~[illegible]~~ well stocked yards.

We had also some good singing from our crew and one of the U.S. men.

About 9 O.C. they went aboard their vessel and our fellows retired.

Dismal dark night and very sea on but the passage between the two ships was made with great rapidity & safety.

The crew of a whaler soon become quite skilful in ~~the operation of~~ lowering & hoisting boats ~~one~~ which is always required cases as it is sometimes regarded as well as sufficient.

~~Sunkin a dirtiest area from~~
~~Sunrise and from stars until~~
~~frightful places with which usual~~
~~proper are filled~~

Yesterday Sunday our Captain hoisted the Union Jack as signal to the [illegible] of his departure from that Cape Horn of which we have so much.

Tuesday 25 Nov 1776

Last night was one to be remembered. At dark the barometer pointed to "very stormy" and it told a true tale.

Before sending the watch below our captain ordered the ~~[illegible]~~ pumps to be emptied; this was soon done as our barque is so tight & well built as almost any whaler, & yet we had not sail left but a few [illegible] & the [illegible] bright light placed in the rigging & lots other precautions: the hatches were battened down on Sunday the 23rd. The Starboards had their watch below from 7 to 11 PM: the coverings of the forecastle hatchway just at 8 seemed to give burst in & from all hands by the noise overhead and soon after by the shout of "all hands on deck!". ~~[illegible]~~

We were soon up and in the midst of one of those scenes of confusion which arise when a staunch ship is exposed to the utmost fury of the elements. The watch on deck were furling the foretopsail & the foresail was already taken in.

The wind was blowing with great violence and following in torrents and the ship rolling at a terrible rate. We were now sent below again however and had quite a nap before morning.

We were then awakened by some of the other watch who came below with dismal accounts of things generally.

~~Soon~~ On our waterproofs we sprang ~~out of bed~~ and went aft to the poop deck as we were ordered to stay the roadmate who heads our watch.

Soon after we turned out the gale killed very ~~more~~ suddenly: ~~at one time~~ the wind seemed to have died at once and the tremendous sea caused the little bark to roll dreadfully: it ~~was~~ ~~[illegible]~~ seemed as though the ship would throw herself aboard. A report came aft that ~~that~~ the mincing blubber machine ~~[illegible]~~ was adrift and had turned over; ~~the~~ but the case was not so bad as at first supposed & the machine ~~which is~~ was ~~secured~~ firmly lashed to the foremast: it was necessary to keep a sharp lookout for everything movable.

The most important matter was the waist boat: ~~our second mate had~~ this boat ~~and it was~~ had been hoisted from davits over the larboard side of the waist since we sailed: it was ~~the~~ intended to take it ~~down~~ inboard before rounding cape Horn: in the Gulf stream it was struck by ~~seemed~~ a heavy sea ~~blow~~ but the oars having been taken out and the boat firmly lashed it was considered

safe -

Our second mate heads this boat and ~~at~~ it is the best boat in the ship, therefore ~~it~~ he was naturally quite anxious for its safety: extra lashings had been put on it before dark but these did not seem sufficient; ~~and~~ a strong tackle was therefore ~~procure~~ made fast round the bows of the boat and passed to the rail on the other side the ship.

It was done at the right moment: two minutes after the rope was made fast, a most tremendous sea came ~~up~~ over the bulwarks filling the ship with water up to her rail, smashing the crane which supported the bottom of the boat and lifting the boat itself: but for the tackle which ~~the~~ had just been put on it is likely she would have been carried away.

As I have said it was the middle watch of the night: that is from 11 pm to 3 am about 12 the wind lulled and soon began to shift round ~~it was~~ at this time we felt a warm current of air from the northwest I suppose the land breeze ~~and~~ but soon ~~it~~ the wind became icy cold about one or a most terrible southwesterly gale set in lashing the ocean till the waves seemed to rise only as high as our maintop, in fact we could hardly see the sky except by looking straight overhead ~~a cold~~ rain fell in sheets, accompanied by the most vivid flashes of lightning I ever saw with now and then a long rattling peal of thunder: we tacked ship and stood East, the sail now being ~~was now~~ taken in ~~but~~ except close reefed main topsail, main sprencer and

foretop mast staysail: the stay sail was soon blown to ribbons but the other sails and ~~all~~ the rigging of the ship stood the gale nobly: When ~~in safety~~ in safety ashore I have sometimes felt a wish, perhaps a foolish one, to see a ship under bare poles as it is called, but I am cured of any such desires in future: ~~[illegible]~~ this Bark is low ~~in the~~ amidships: in moderately rough weather water comes in a little at the lee scuppers; but all last night and especially about the end of the middle watch the ~~sea~~ a flood ~~[illegible]~~ deck was rushing continually back and forth from one side of the waist to the other making it difficult and dangerous to move except by clinging with both hands to the rigging, it is probable that if a man had slipped & fallen on the weather side ~~it is probable~~ ~~that~~ he would have been carried down to the lee side and washed overboard ~~into a~~ in an instant. ~~We had taken some half a dozen chickens aboard at the Western Isles, one hen alone left~~; at about three oclock we struck the bell, called the watch and went below, the storm was then at its height and from that time it gradually abated till daylight; I and another pumped the ship out twice during this watch, we found but little water in her.

Nov. 26th 1856

Heavy sea on but the gale continues to abate.— Our captain says it is as severe one as he ever experienced— The waist boat was

got in on deck this morning & lashed on the try works. It was a job of some difficulty & perhaps also of ~~a little~~ some danger.

Looking at an atlas I find that we were just in the mouth of the Rio De la Plata last night and within a hundred miles of the shore of Uruguay —

Friday Nov 28th 1856

A large sp wh was raised early yesterday morning by our third mate, ~~if~~ there was rather a rough sea on, but the boats were lowered and he was chased from about 10 am to 4 pm without success; 3 or 4 other whales were raised in the afternoon and the boats kept in pursuit of them till near 7 pm but were unable to get fast: it came on to blow last evg and our captain judged it best to lay to. The weather off the mouth of the Rio Plata is very uncertain and ships are often dismasted here.

Sunday 30th

~~Saturday~~ ~~29~~ Nov 1856

Yesterday morning was fine and cloudless but about noon a southwesterly gale set in and ~~on~~ kept on increasing till ~~9 or~~ 10 pm when it ~~appeared to die away was now~~ blew quite as hard as on the night of the 24th inst & the sea was as bad as on the night of the 24th inst: there was however no rain or lightning: the captn had had the sails mostly taken in during the morning and at noon a none remained set but main spencer & close reefed maintopsail. The stay sail

was furled this time as it had been nearly destroyed before and probably the Captain did not wish to lose it a second time.

It was the turn of the starboard watch to have 8 hours on deck and we passed on the whole a very comfortable night: it was rather ~~cold~~ chilly but with plenty of clothing we did not ~~so~~ feel the weather much.

We stood aft on the poop deck during the first watch as it is ~~was~~ the driest ~~most~~ sheltered place in the ship. ~~As it is almost also gone be~~ Our bark rode out the gale beautifully: she is said by those who have had considerable experience in other vessels to be as good a sea boat of her size as there is afloat.

~~On~~ When we turned in at eleven the force of the gale was pretty much broken and in the morning watch from three to 7 am the waves were constantly decreasing. About daylight ~~as one of our boats harpooners was standing on the starboard side of the waist looking over the side a whale~~ a whale of the kind called "Sulphur bottoms" ~~rose from~~ passed directly under the ship ~~and~~ rose and came up ~~to~~ and blew his spout in defiance right in front of one of our harpooners who was looking over the side. Our first mate ~~had~~ brought up his rifle from the cabin and tried to get a shot but was unable. The whale appeared to be 30 or 40 feet long. He ~~for~~ came up on the weather side passed round to leeward and went off after blowing several times. This kind of whale appear to blow only ~~once~~ twice or three times before sounding.

Monday 1st Decr 1856 (12 m)

We had ~~a~~ delightful weather yesterday. The waves were just tipped with white caps, the sky was almost cloudless and the breeze mild and pleasant. We saw no whales. ~~passed our time in~~ -

To day ~~the~~ several sulphur bottoms were seen. At the mast head this morning I noticed as many as five different kinds of birds flying round the ship.

Going before the wind to day with main-top gallant sail set, for the first time in a week or ten days - I am told that we shall go into port ~~in~~ at Talcuhuano in about 4 months from this time 107 days from New Bedford to day.

Tuesday 2nd Decr 1856

Going S.S.W. before the wind -

Lat yesterday at 4 P.M. 39°.50, that of the Horn is about 57°. We have therefore about 17 degrees ~~to sail over before reaching~~ or say 700 to 800 miles to sail before reaching Cape Horn.

Wednesday 3rd Decr 1856

Gale & heavy sea which renders it impossible to do any work on deck.

~~The Sun rose & the rain~~

Thursday 4th Decr 1856

The Sun rose fine this morning and before 7 AM all sail was set but ~~before~~ at noon the sky clouded up again, the gale began to roar ~~the waves to~~ & ~~they~~ ~~it~~ by two oclock PM the fore sail fore topsail & mainsail were snugly furled ~~and~~ the maintopsail close reefed and we were once more ~~scudd~~ laying to —

~~All~~ The wind continued to increase ~~and~~ as long as daylight lasted and by dark it blew with great violence — now and then a roller of extra size would come dashing over the bulwarks making it a little of a study to keep from ~~being~~ wet to the skin: this was agreeably varied by an occasional sprinkling of hailstones —

~~And this was~~

~~Friday~~ Saturday 6th Dec /56 —

The pleasant weather above described continued ~~Sleeping~~ ~~Throughout~~ the night of the 4th ~~at~~ and all day yesterday — at dark it began to moderate; ~~and~~ at this time (8 AM) we are going under fore ~~sails~~ + main + reefed topsails — a ~~sail~~ ship in sight this morning on lee beam carrying about the same sail as ourselves.

Yesterday afternoon one of the men, ~~was~~

hove his fish line over the stern and endeavored for some time to catch an albatross or "goney" as they are commonly called at sea.

After waiting patiently for an hour or two a goney seized upon the bait and was brot safe aboard.

The bird's body was of the size of a large goose and measured over six feet from tip to tip.

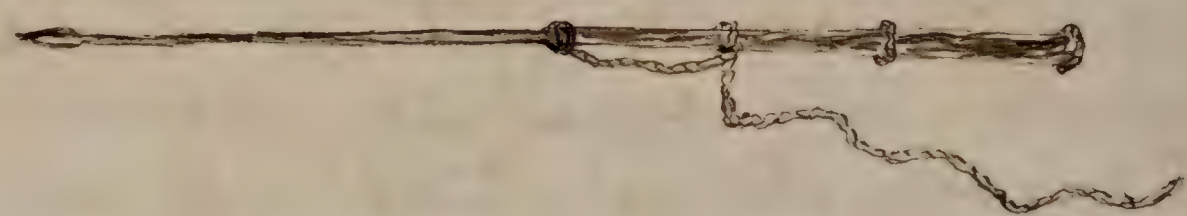
The head was large and round & the beak very powerful: the wings are of a delicate mouse color while every other part of the body was covered with a beautiful snow-white down. It snapped fiercely with its beak at everything that approached.

The huge wings appeared to be powerless on deck: quite a hard fought battle lasting about half an hour took place between the albatross and Diamond a fine little terrier belonging to the Captain - at first the dog was in doubt about approaching too near but bird being set down in a clear space on the quarter deck and the dog encouraged to attack him the fight began in good earnest. The goney kept his strong bill constantly in motion & the dog would now and then get a severe tweak; this enraged him and he made constant efforts to seize the bird by the back jumping round & round him in a fury to the great amusement of all hands who were look-

on at the contest – at last the poor bird's head was held still for a moment and the dog gave him a mortal wound: the ~~poor~~ goney was then ~~killed~~ despatched with a club.

You may think me cruel but I confess I looked on with but little pity for the albatross who appears to ~~be~~ me a stupid, useless bird.

I was afterwards told that this specimen was ~~only~~ probably only 5 or 6 weeks old and that an ~~real~~ old Cape Horn goney would be unable to have killed the dog with his wings and beak.



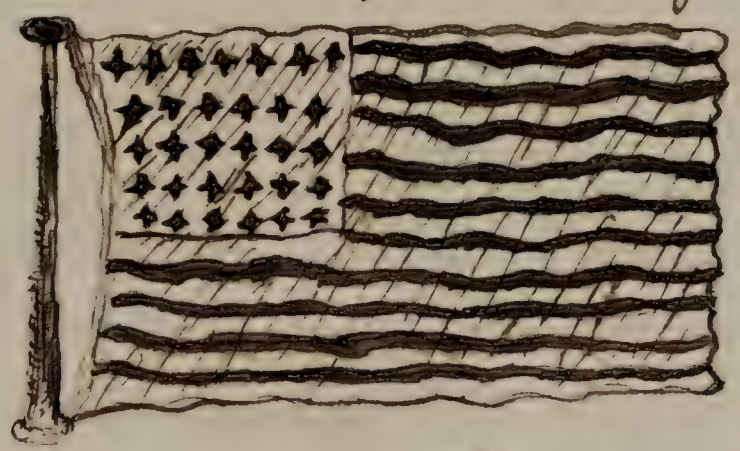
Monday 8th Decr 1856

We continued to run along before the wind until about ½ past 3 PM yesterday when our watch who were below asleep were routed out to the tune of "All hands take in sail!!" A squall was blowing: ~~Everybody~~ though not a very severe one: all hands ~~except the officers~~ were soon in the rigging and the fore sail & fore topsail were being furled and the main topsail close reefed in hot haste. The ~~gale~~ sky gradually cleared but the wind did not abate and at this (8 am) a gale is still blowing from NE so that we are obliged to lay to. Every one is out of patience with the weather. A "Right whale" porpoise

was killed yesterday and hauled aboard.
~~The oil of~~ The head oil of the porpoise is said to be very valuable: a considerable quantity was obtained from this one.

We should ~~be glad~~ like to get a right whale if we could: however I think ~~all~~ the whole ship's company will be glad to round the Horn ~~ow~~ as soon as possible.

The weather today is mild and would be quite pleasant were it not for the gale.



Tuesday 9th Decr 1856
Gale abating, seas still heavy.

Wednesday 10th Decr 1856
Fine weather steering full & by and heading about S.E. until 1½ pm when tacked ship & now head about W.
All sail set – Ice birds in great numbers round the ship – masthead kept but no sails or fish seen.

Sunday 21st Decr 1856

Steering full and by ~~with a fair breeze~~ — The atmosphere today at noon is pleasant ~~delightful~~ but the mornings and evenings are very chilly ~~and~~ though we have seen no ice or snow as yet.

~~The latitude of~~ We are very near the Falkland Islands and ~~the~~ are now heading about S.W. in order to pass between the Falklands and the mainland.

Have ~~so~~ seen no ~~to~~ Sperm or Right whs. since last date.

Last Sunday 15th inst gammed whaleship Mary Frazer of N. B. — They have been out since 30th Sept last: took two blkfish no whales; lost bowboat in a gale off Rio Plata — The M. F. is bound to the Ochotsk Sea.

Friday 19th inst Bark Valparaiso Capt Gifford ~~bore in sight~~ was seen bearing down at daybreak: she raised round our stern and ~~went off to windward within a few miles~~ kept company till afternoon when we gammed — We had been in company with this ship for a week off the Rio Plata — ~~and had~~ They had lost ~~two~~ a boats and part of their ~~gangway~~ bulwarks in a gale but to counterbalance this ill luck had killed 2 large Sperm whales.

Not being able to finish cutting in before dark the whale's head ~~and case~~ was made fast ~~to~~ the bows, but ~~it~~ the weather came on to

tackle fastings it was unfortunately lost
blow out the ~~had the misfortune to lose~~
it – ~~As it was~~ however they obtained 50 bbls good sperm oil if
the head had been saved the yield would
have been near 100 –

The V's people were in excellent spirits –
She left us at dark steering SW by W. ~~nearly~~ ~~west~~ while we
were going SW. – Yesterday about 5 A.M. while
the sky was ~~quite~~ clear and the sun shining brightly
a ~~very~~ violent gale very suddenly came upon us from the
SW. – All hands were called and all
sail but close reefs & mizzen taken in
as soon as practicable – It was reported
that the Captn saw land first about
sunrise and supposed it to be the Falkland
Islands. but I doubt the truth of the report.

~~We have passed~~ The Valparaiso road
~~The gale commenced~~ seem to commence lofing her
topsails before we felt the gale – Since then we
have not seen her –

Monday 22nd Decr 1856

Last evening a penguin or "wangin" was
shot off deck by our cabin boy.

I have read of the stupidity of the penguin
and this one gave ~~good~~ proof of more stupidity
than I think I ever saw before in any living
thing – He was shot at twice when a little distance
from the ship and as soon as the gun
was loaded the third time he swam directly
up to within a yard ~~two feet~~ of the vessel and

met his death like a hero – No duellist ever faced a muzzle with more coolness.

We have fine weather & head S.S.W. – One of the pigs which we took aboard at the Wm Sields was slaughtered today: ~~we anticipate a taste of fresh meat on Thurs~~

Wednesday 24 Decr 1856

Steering S.S.E. — Mild Weather —

Fin back whales seen round the ship in great plenty —

Stand by for Christmas

Thursday Christmas 25th Decr 1856

Weather rather damp and chilly – Steering S.S.E. and making good time – ~~with~~ All sail set –

In the afternoon a number of fin backs were seen – Our first mate lowered his boat and tries to get a shot ~~with~~ at them with the bomb lance; but the fish were too cunning to let him get near them. We saw two sails at a long distance –

Friday 26th Dec 1856

Staten Land in plain sight about 20 miles to the S.W.

This is the first land seen since leaving the port of Fayal in September last – The Weather to-day is delightful considering ~~where we are~~ the latitude. The tract of country called Staten Land ~~appears~~ presents the aspect of being very rugged and mountainous –

Patches of snow still remain on the ~~fa~~ sides and summits of the mountains – ~~lower down towards~~ The coast appears of a dingey green hue.

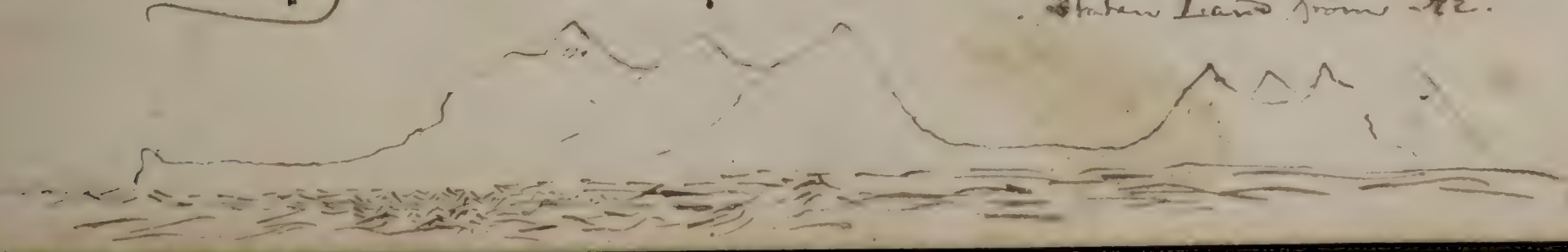
A ~~snow~~ small bird flew into the rigging to-day and after resting a moment started again for shore – It ~~at~~ looked like the snow birds of US –

In a day or two more we hope to be in the Pacific if we are favored with a fair breeze –

~~Since~~ Since leaving the Rio Plata ~~our~~ the days have lengthened very fast until at present we have but about 3 to 4 hrs of darkness – In perfectly clear weather there seems almost no night at all.

Right glad am I for one that ~~the weather is mild~~ it is the season of summer and that ~~it is darkness and not daylight~~ the days are long and not the nights.

Staten Land from SE.



Sunday 28th Decr 1856 4 o'clock pm

Yesterday the weather was equally – We were lying to most of the day – A merchant vessel passed well ~~bowing~~ steering North with ~~all~~ ~~sail~~ everything set – Squallant sails royals stu'n sails and all – I suppose ~~she~~ was a Liverpool or Boston clipper bound home. About 10 o'c last night ~~we~~ fine breeze sprung up from NE and to day at 12 M we were in lat. 56° S. – This afternoon the wind has died away and at present the air is nearly still –

After making a little more Southing we shall head west till ~~west~~ get power.

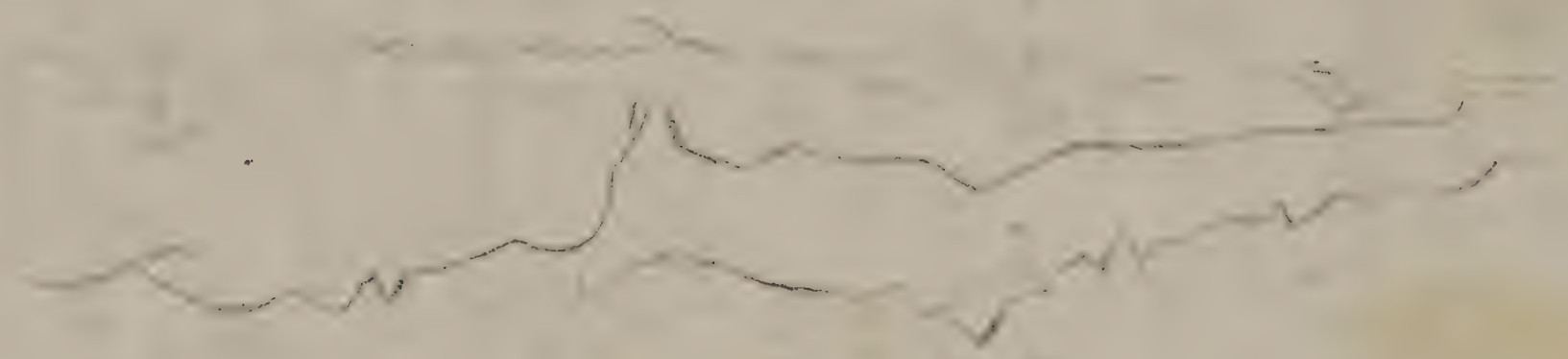
Thursday 1st January 1857

Since last entry we have gone many miles to the Southward and Eastward – This was by reason of head winds and violent squalls making it necessary to carry but little sail and lie to often –

To day I was told by our cabin boy that our Long. is 65° 21' W, Lat. 57° 35' S. –

The year commenced with ~~most~~ very mild & pleasant weather for this part of the world – The ship is heading S.W. carrying all sail but there is hardly any wind –

We have had all sail on for a couple of days.



Saturday 3rd Jany 1858

Lat 57°. 07 South Lon 67°. 32 West

Yesterday morning all sail set going at a tremendous rate before the wind. Steering about N. by E.

About seven PM. the sky began to be overcast and it came on to blow very hard from Southward. At 11 PM all sail taken in but a reef main topsail and foretopmaststeadysail, and we were lying to on the larboard tack.

The gale continued until sunrise when it began to abate. At this time (4 to 6 PM) all sail is set but foretopgallantsl and we hope to get safe round before many hours.

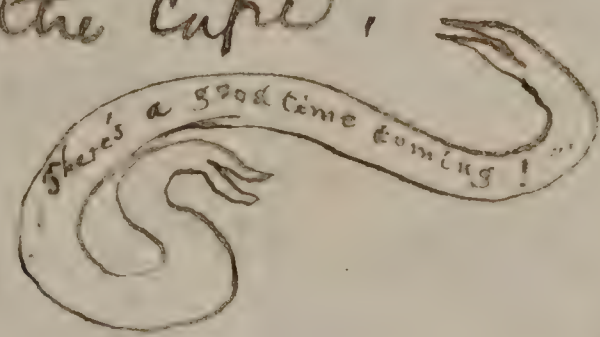
This afternoon a very large school of blackfish seen close to. Two sails seen — one about 4 miles leading N.E. and one this afternoon going East.

One or two days ago we had some fun stripping fin backs from the ship. The Captn shot one big fellow but as the gun was only loaded with ball it had not much effect.

One mate struck his lance into another but was unable to reach his life. These wheels were twenty to 30 ft in length. It was quite exciting to see them rushing round the ship; each of the officers stood ready to plunge the lance if a good mark offered.

The oil of the cover is inferior and they sink when killed: for these reasons they are seldom pursued. We have seen them in abundance

ever since leaving New Bedford; the little birds called by sailors Mother Carey's chickens have also accompanied us the whole way ~~from~~ through the Atlantic to the Cape.



Monday 5th Jany. 1857

Hurra!! The Captain says to day that we are round the Horn and in the Pacific — Three sails in sight at 3 00 PM — We are steering about West by South and going at a brisk rate about 7 knots an hour — Weather pleasant.

Diego (in sight yesterday to the N.)

Thursday 15th Jany 1857

To day we have ~~good~~ sunshine + mild weather — Lon 78.40 W Lat 51.07 S Since coming into the Pacific ~~we~~ have had a spell of terribly bad weather, rainy cold and disagreeable every way: the report now is that the Capt intends steering NW or thereabouts until he reaches Lat 32 ~~when~~ when he will cruise for ~~a while and~~ stems of ill — We hope to get into Valparaiso in about two months: as we shall have our first liberty there it is of course looked forward to very much by all hands.

About the 4th or 5th inst we signaled W. Ship Gov. Trong of Mb off Milton; also a day or two after saw & signaled an English merchtman: but the weather was too rough to allow of speaking either of them.

Sunday 25th January 1857

The old Bark has at last arrived in about 46° South Lat. ~~Miles & [illegible]~~ —

Any one taking the trouble to read this journal will notice ~~the~~ a considerable interval in which no ~~record~~ log has been kept: ~~it~~ for this they must thank the weather ~~we have~~ ~~in~~ which we have passed through. ~~Most~~ The condition of the weather as regards the happiness of man has a great effect on shore what ~~it~~ must it be ~~then~~ to those who are ~~totally~~ greatly dependent on its smiles or frowns as the ~~poor~~ sailor — as for the captain and his officers the crew retire to the warm & sheltered cabin and change their ~~wet~~ clothing when ~~wet~~ dripping by ~~the~~ the sea or ~~wet~~ the rain, but the poor fellows before the mast whose ~~scanty~~ outfit probably contains but a single thick suit ~~of woolen~~ ~~clothes~~ must ~~stand~~ ~~wet~~ continue to wear ~~on~~ ~~and~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ wet ~~one~~ jacket, through the ~~wet~~ day & night watches ~~and when~~ until the relief bell sends him below ~~into~~ the wet forecastle and wet bunk. The ship lying to in a violent storm of wind rain & hail, all sail taken in but close reefed main topsail & spencer ~~[illegible]~~ the cold spray flying over the decks fore & aft, such has been our almost constant experience

fence coming in sight of State Island.

In consideration of these, I hope to be excused ~~for~~ Yesterday & to day the atmosphere has been delightful; ~~and~~ all sail has been set for the last 48 hours. Mast heads are manned; fin back and sulphur bottom whales are seen in plenty and this morning a large piece of squid floated by: we shall soon ~~be~~ enter ~~on~~ the whaling ground ~~in~~ ~~the neighborhood~~ of ~~the island of~~ Mataforo Island. The goneys are leaving us; only ~~a few~~ one or two in sight today.

We ~~are~~ shall be glad to see the last of them as they appear to delight in ~~the~~ ~~so~~ bad weather: about a fortnight ~~two days~~ ago we had a most tremendous gale: it began on Sunday evening ~~night~~ and blew all night at a fearful rate; at daybreak the" goneys were quite ~~thick~~ numerous around the ship swimming ~~about~~ tossing about on the summits of the enormous waves and evidently at home.

A line & hook baited with pork was thrown out and in an hour not less than 8 of these huge birds were floundering about decks. The largest being measured was ten feet 3 inches from tip to tip: they have been caught ~~as~~ so large as a creature fourteen feet. ~~for~~

more about Cape Horn

Thursday 5th Feby 1859

On the 27th of last month we came in sight of the Island of Masafuero — The island appears to be 20 or 30 miles in circumference very high out of water, probably 5 or 600 ft above the sea.

The sea ~~on the~~ near the island is filled with fish: ~~of~~ ~~and~~ two boats were sent off about 8 this morning.

While waiting for the boats the Captn shot a fin back whale with the bomb lance: the whale was ~~put~~ about a ships length ahead: he dies instantly on receiving the lance, rolled fin out, ~~the~~ ~~Capt~~ but sank before a boat could be lowered. The Captn said he would have made 10 or 12 bbls.

About 7 ~~oc~~ pm the boats returned with a quantity of fish of all kinds — they lasted us about two days and were tolerable good eating.

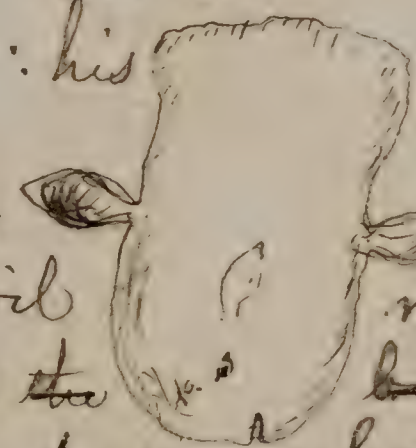
Yesterday the 4th Feby ~~we~~ came in sight of Juan Fernandez and to day it is out of sight again — No whale yet.

A merchantman ~~is~~ in sight on the weather bow —

Tuesday 17th Febr 1857

The ship is now within about 100 miles of the coast of Chili, in a few days it is thought that we shall go into the port of Talcuhuana.

On the morning of the 13th inst a large sunfish was ~~caught~~ killed and brot aboard: he was said to be of extraordinary size. he must have measured 8 or 9 ft in length and 6 or 7 in breadth: his shape was something like this: the liver ~~oil~~ is valuable for its oil a scale tub was filled with it and it was put in the sun that the oil might drain out.



~~So~~ The ~~rest~~ flesh is of the ~~body~~ appeared ~~to be a kind of~~ elastic and as white as glass.

In the afternoon we had still better luck, a school of blackfish was pursued with the boats and two killed and hauled aboard.

As this fish is a kind of whale and as I am not yet able to relate from eyewitness the process of ~~trying~~ converting a Spermwhale into oil, I will try to give some account of the ~~blackfish & the~~ ~~and of the~~ operations performed on the blackfish.

~~The swift gliding boat~~

Sketch of Tobacco Chili
February 22nd 1852

Arr. at Talcahuano Feb 22. 1857
Sld. from " March 9.

Lost in April about the 13th 1857

Dear Nan. the day before he was lost he was in the cabin a waiting for him he was well to all appearance it is strange to me how he had a fight the night before he was lost the man that he fought with was the first that reported his lost and the last man that seen him living. I hope to see some of his friends some day William D. Bunell was a Good boy and tried to please

Capt Leonard W. Hill
New Bedford
Mass
No 5 Willis St.

See next leaf

Blank pages following this spread have not been digitized.

Whaling!

It's advertised in Albany NY & Buffalo
500 young Americans a growing for 3 o
Cheer up cheer up my lively lads
" " " in spite of wind & weather
" " " will all go home together

They send you to NB. that famous whaling port
To some damn rascal to board & fit you out
Cheer up &c

They show you yr clipper ship that's built both strong & stout
They say you'll have $500 before yr. bows out
chorus

Now comes you grub my boys & of that little enough
All the week we've stinking beef & on Sunday little of duff

Next comes the running rigging boys which all of you must know
If you don't learn it in a week you'll lose yr below watch
Cheer

Yr heart full sore

Next comes that cursed compass boys which you've
With 2 & 30 points to learn of yr own full 40 more

Now we are at Cape Horn boys where the wind comes up to blow
Some are sick as he on deck the rest are down below

Now were on the Coast of Pernambucco to wander up to blow
We lower away all of our boats & after them we go

Now the boats are lowered away then level were all upon
If you don't look out for his flukes he'll send
you to the devil

Now the whale is turned fin up with two
him along side
We get the fluke chains on him & rob him of his hide

The boatsteerer is overboard the tackles overhauled
The capt's on the main chain & loudly he does bawl
Now the blubber's all tried out the oil is stowed away
Our skaw it is full 50 cts on the 170 long

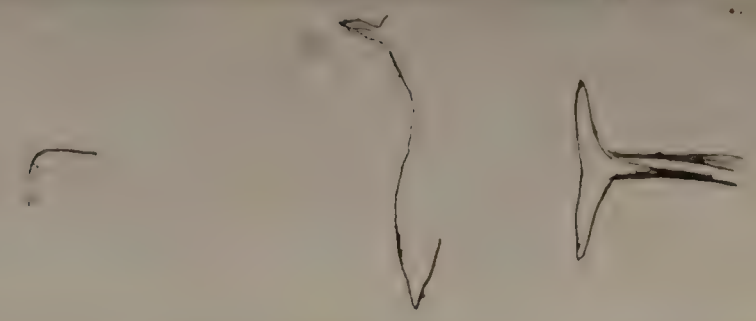
We now go into Tombez or some such cursed port
Where if a man does run away he's sure to be caught

We next go into Payti where the Americans all do leave
their ship and crew of Spaniards or dog eat cursed Portuguese

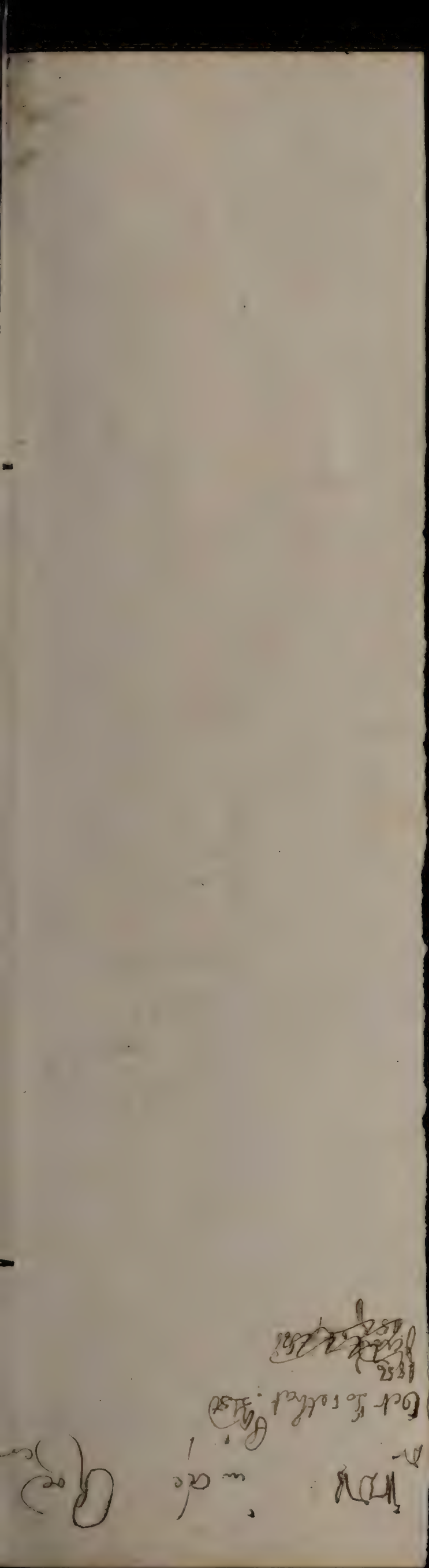
We now go into Talcha where we're in the shipping room
For he can buy the Consul for a half a bbl of flour

Now our ship it is full we don't care a damn
We crowd on all our lofty sails & silent for
Yankee land

Long live the Bedford whaler & think no more of
sailing
Now we've shew off to damn bugger the whaling

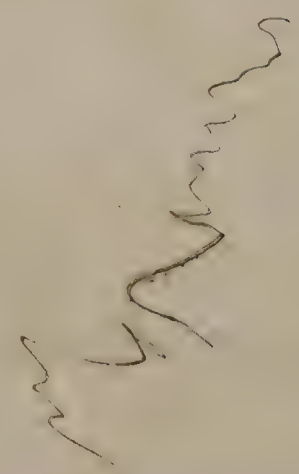


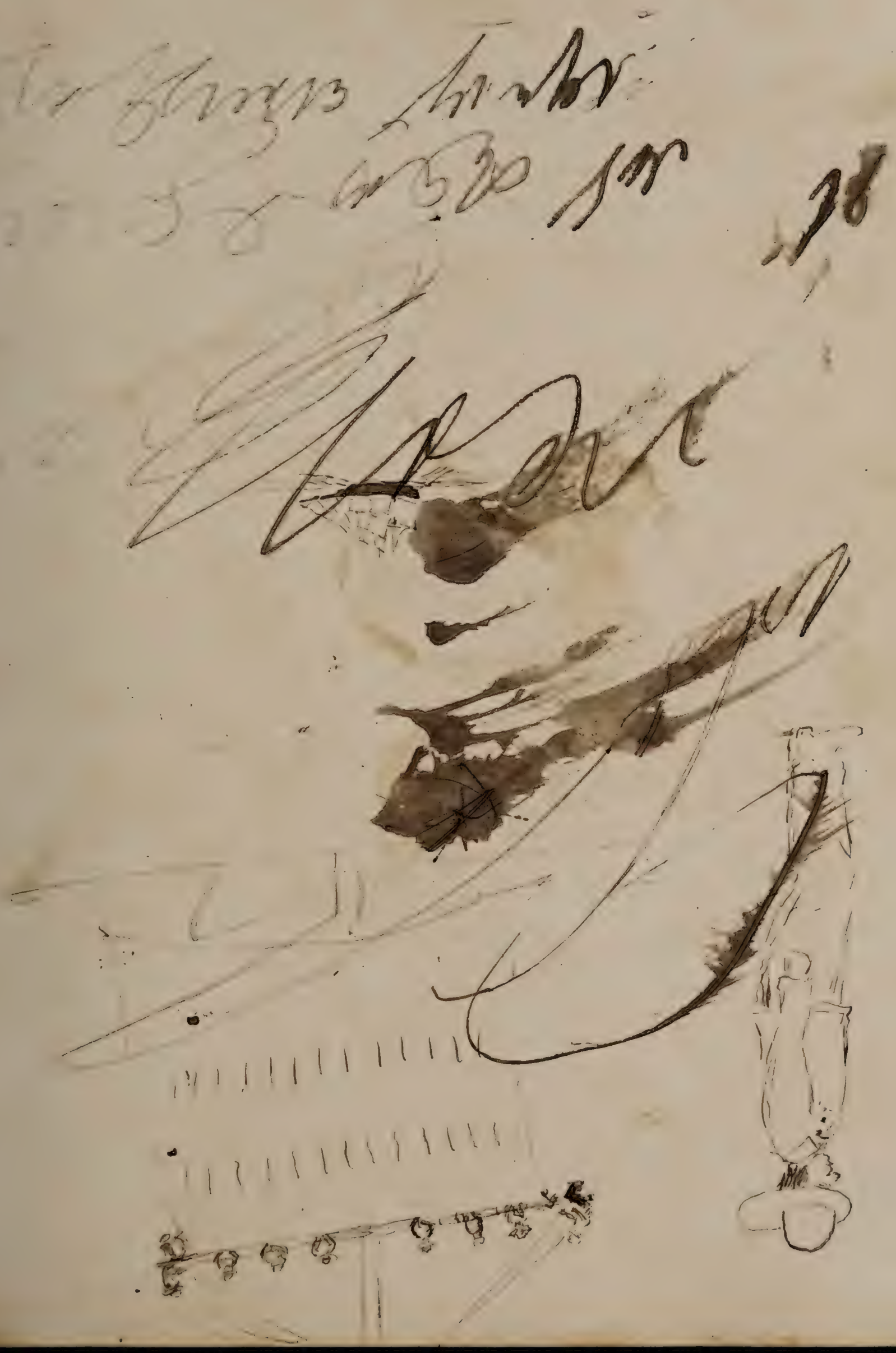
Booby
Albatross or Gonney
Mc Chicken
Sea hen
Sea pigeon
Spruce partridge
Ice bird
Sea chicken
Blue Jay
Wangin or Bengain
Mollywauk
~~Porpoise~~



Wm D Reid in a/c with Stark Wave Co

Dr		Cr	
To outfit &c	35.06	By 1 pr shoes	1.11
" 4 lb Tobacco	1.00		
" 1 Sh Knife	.28		
" 1 pr Shoes	1.88		
" 1 Belt & Shot	.25		
" 1 Shoon	.08		
" 1 pr drawers	1.10		
" 1 undershirt	1.10		
" 1 pr socks	.80		
" 2 lb Tobac	.50		
" Sick Bed Tale & Litter	8.		
" Int			





Homeward Bound

Hurra my boys the news is come
The good old ship is ~~bound~~ ordered home
Have courage my boys in a few days more
And will be on Columbia's shore
for we are homeward bound
Hurra we're homeward bound

It when we get off Sandy Hook
The girls all come to have a look
To see if lovers true & brave
Still sail upon the old bark Wave
For we are &c

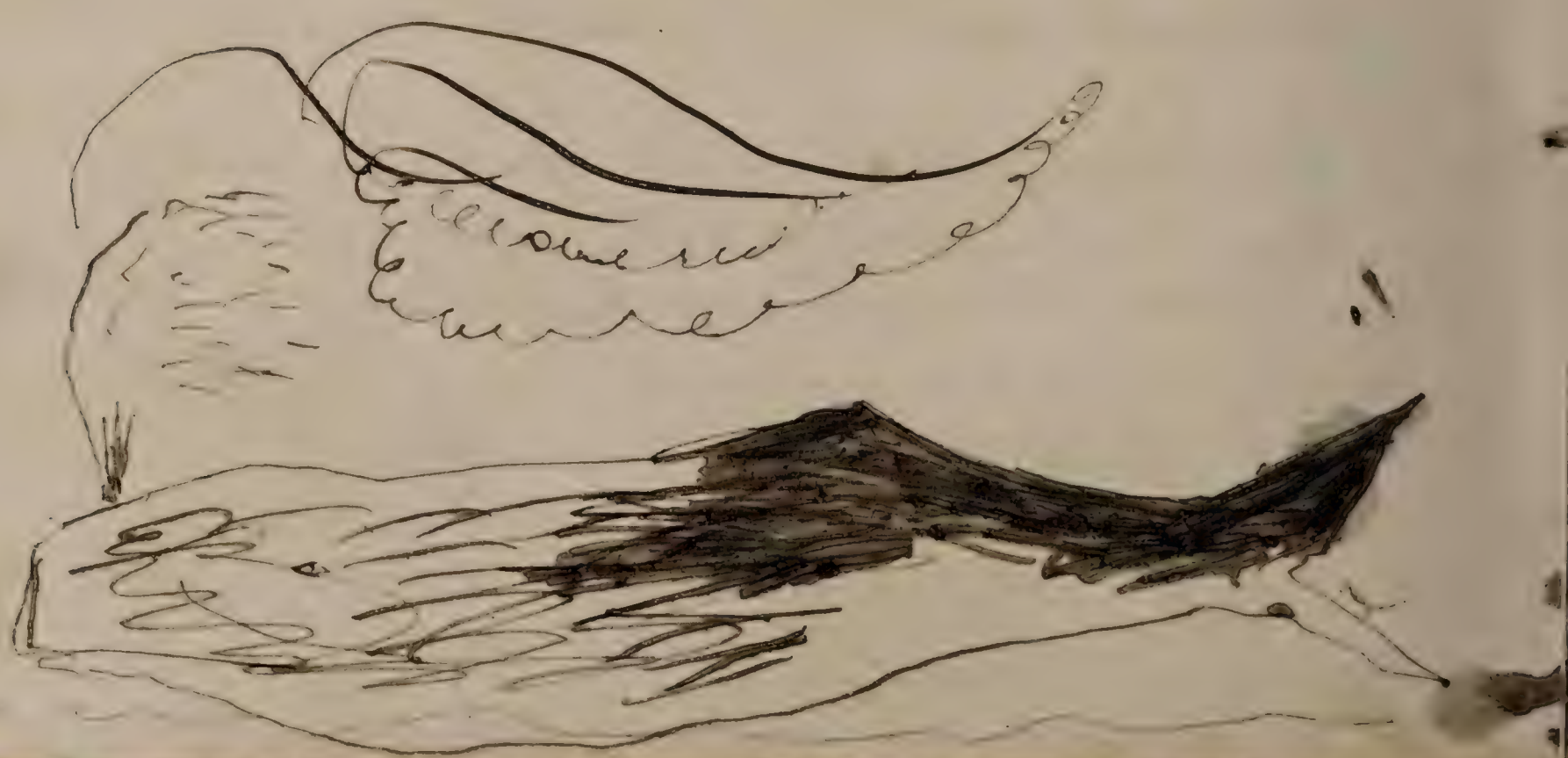
The landlords too from Water Street
They flock around us in a fleet
To pluck us as they do done before
And try to pluck a few gulls more
For &c

The landlady is best of all
Because she wants a new silk shawl
And the girls too they want a gown
And we cant refuse for we're homeward bound
For &c

The children too they want some cakes
And that another dollar takes
We cant refuse for it looks so low
And damn my eyes but the children know
That we are &c

Now Shipmates all take my advice
Don't trust your landlord because he's nice
For its when your money is all gone
He'll turn you out out from house & home
Then you'll be outward bound &c

Dog — Cão
Cow — vaca
horse - cavolho
Boy — Piqueno
Man — homan
Fence —
Tree — ramo



Sperm Whale So ho
Come all ye bold seamen that are
bound round Cape Horn

Come all ye bold seamen that
are cruising for Sperm

We are now round Cape Horn boys
we are on our pursue
We are all of one mind our
endeavors to do
Our Capt has told us and I hope
twill prove true
There's plenty sperm whale porpoise
the Coast of Peru
Our boat crews are chosen our sigal, all plain
our boat are well fitted our mast heads well manned
The 1st 30 days we did see being late in it
our Cap came on deck & these words he did sing
Lower away from your mast heads go down
to your hammocks and quietly be
Now I think in the morning shall be under our lee
Early next morning just as the sun rose
The man from the mast head sings out "There she blows"
"Where away" cries our Capt and spring a leak
Three points on our lee bow & scare three miles off

"Lower away from your mast heads & be of your
Set your lines in your boat, see your boat clear
warp all clear

Hoist & swing my starb'd boat is crew
Lower away! lower away! my brave bullies do
Then down to your oars boys and after her row
I know she's a sperm whale by her spouting so low
Bend hard to your oars boys & make my boat fly
I'll do my endeavors to keep from her eye

Our harpooner hastened that whale he went down
Our chief mate pulled up his line to bend on
That whale she broke water & to windward she flew
Haul line on that whale boys our Capt'n did cry

That whale being gallied she came to a stand
Our Capt'n stood up with the lance in his hand
That whale she perceived us & at us she flew
And in to her life the bright lance he threw

Our Capt'n being a whale man without fear or doubt
Soon caused her to vomit & thick blood to spout
And in less than 10 minutes we rolled her fin over
That whale on the water like a log she did lie

We towed her along side that very same day
We towed her along side with many a shout
Commenced to cut in & likewise try out

Our whale is all tried out & our work is all done
~~As you may suppose~~ She's worth unto us one
Two or more
And now all we want boys as you may suppose
is to hear from the mast head the cry "there she blows!"

a life on the Ocean Wave!
a home on the rolling deep!
Where the water spirits lave!
And the ~~water~~ winds their revels keep!

Like an eagle caged I pine
(On this dull unchanging shore);
Oh, give me the flashing brine
The spray and the tempest's roar.

Once more on the deck I stand
Of my own swift gliding craft,
Set sail! farewell to the land!
The gale follows far abaft.

We shoot through the sparkling foam
Like an ocean bird set free:
Like the ocean bird, our home,
We'll find far out on the sea.

The land is no longer in view,
The clouds have begun to frown,
But with a stout vessel & crew
We'll say let the storms come down,

And the song of our hearts shall be,
While the ~~boat~~ winds and the waters rave
A life on the heaving sea!
A home on the bounding wave.

Katy darling — Song —

They told me thou west dead Katy darling,
That thy smile I should nevermore behold?
Did they tell thee I was false Katy Darling?
That my love for thee had ever grown cold?
Oh they know not the loving hearts of Erin's sons!
When a love like to thine Katy darling, was
the goal to the race that he runs!
Oh Hear me! Sweet Katy!
Oh the wild flowers blossom Katy darling!
And the love birdies nestle on each tree!
Wilt thou never move hear me Katy darling!
Or think love I'm waiting for thee.

~~The Offer Refused~~

My own one, my dear one, the dearest unto me,
Will you wed with a jolly Sailor boy
That's just come from sea?
Two last lines repeat in every verse

You are dirty love, ~~and~~ You are ragged love,
And your clothes smell of tar,
So begone you saucy Sailor boy!
So begone you jack tar!

I am dirty love, and I am ragged love,
And my clothes smell of tar
But there's silver in my pocket, love,
And of gold in bright store.

Soon as she heard him saying so,
Down on her knees she fell
Saying I'll wed with Henry
For I love a jolly Sailor well.

~~Do you think that~~
Do you think that I am foolish love?
Do you think that I am mad?
For to wed with a poor country girl,
When there's a fortune to be had?

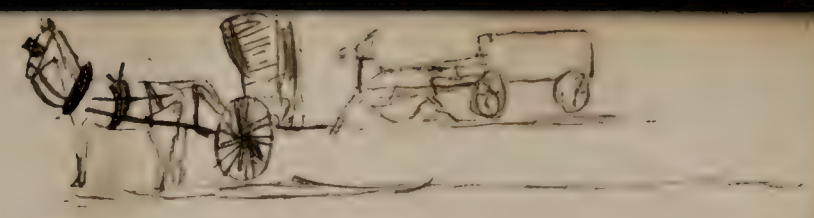
I will cross the briny ocean
Where the meadows are so green,
And since you refuse my offer love,
Some other girl shall wear the ring

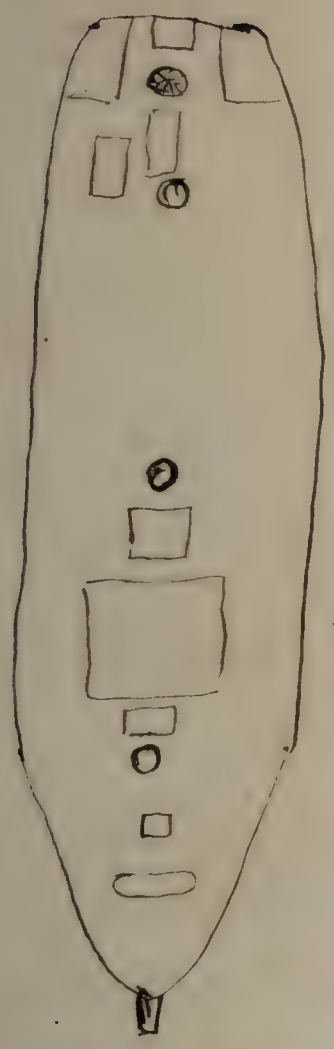
over

I am young my love and I am frolicsome!
Good natured kind and free,
And I dont care a single lock my boys
What the world says of me.

~~Recent from my friend~~

Joseph J. Horan





1856

August

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wens	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					(15)	(16)
(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)
(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)
(31)						

September

S.	M.	T.	W.	Th.	F.	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October

			(1)	(2)	3	4
5	6	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)
(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)
(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)
(29)	(30)					

1857

1857

July

S.	M.	T.	W.	Th.	F.	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	

January

S.	M.	T.	W.	Th.	F.	Sat
				(1)	(2)	(3)
(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)
(25)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)

February

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)
(28)						

March

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)
(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(25)	(26)	(27)
(28)	(29)	(30)	(31)			

April

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Willem Grant

A